ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

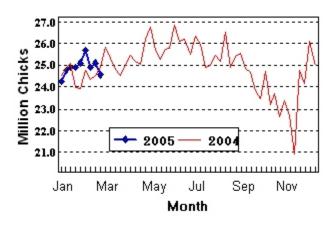
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 24.6 million during the week ending February 26, 2005. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week in 2004, and down 2 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.3 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through February 26, 2005 were 224.2 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 25.9 million, up 4 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.3 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.6 percent.

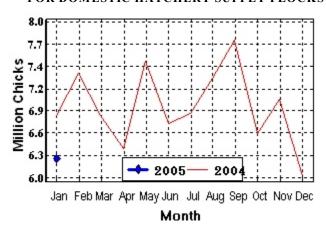
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 31.3 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending February 26, 2005, up 1 percent from the same period last year, and up fractionally from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 6.3 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during January 2005, down 8 percent from January 2004.

ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS BY WEEK, 2004- 2005



U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS								
Week	Yea	%						
Ending	2004	2004 2005						
	1,000							
Jan. 22	23,982	24,907	104					
Jan. 29	23,910	25,119	105					
Feb. 5	24,766	25,702	104					
Feb. 12	24,386	24,929	102					
Feb. 19	24,508	25,110	102					
Feb. 26	24,911	24,569	99					

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED								
	Yea	%						
Month	2003-2004	2003-2004 2004-2005						
	1,000							
Aug.	7,401	7,280	98					
Sep.	6,654	7,758	117					
Oct.	6,312	6,587	104					
Nov.	6,946	7,008	101					
Dec.	6,978	6,075	87					
Jan.	6,811	6,289	92					

BROILEREGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2005

	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKSPLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending			1/	Week Ending				1/			
STATE	05-Feb	12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	%	22-Jan	29-Jan	05-Feb	12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	%
Alabama	30,031 *	29,976	30,075	29,756	99	21,188	20,840	21,150	21,630	21,582	21,723	99
ARKANSAS	30,987 *	31,083	31,217	31,259	101	24,907	25,119	25,702	24,929	25,110 *	24,569	99
Delaware	3,916	3,929	3,927	3,929	100	5,353	5,294	5,402	5,314	5,222	5,408	120
Florida	1,357 *	1,343	1,359	1,357	101	1,525	1,638	1,500	1,500	1,540	1,437	99
Georgia	33,908	33,521	33,448	33,642	101	27,060	26,864	27,067	26,377	26,777 *	27,102	103
Kentucky	7,175	7,237	7,281 *	7,392	105	6,120 *	6,168 *	6,275 *	6,305 *	6,368 *	6,319	102
Louisiana	3,984	4,044	4,044	4,043	106	3,819	4,025	3,915	3,830	3,814	3,746	109
Maryland	8,882	8,900	8,947	8,931	101	5,299	4,194	5,319	4,745	5,514	4,653	80
Mississippi	19,693	19,558	19,465	19,277	101	17,012	17,634	17,559	18,184	17,890	17,963	110
N. Carolina	18,196 *	18,623	18,651	18,208	98	14,465	14,411	14,540	14,668	14,893	14,567	102
Oktahoma	6,453	6,467	6,306	6,364	99	4,481	4,783	5,165	5,258	5,065	5,560	115
Pennsylvania	4,060	4,065	4,143 *	4,096	108	2,987	2,909	2,963	2,878	3,036 *	2,995	114
S. Carolina	5,142	5,316	5,180	5,279	139	4,134	3,854	4,152	4,722	4,560	4,449	117
Texas	15,107	15,131	15,202	15,235	101	12,460	12,640	11,659	12,813	12,766	12,712	105
Virginia	6,496	5,980	6,424	6,528	100	5,660	5,703	4,826	5,385	5,220	5,372	110
CA,MO,TN,WV	<u>1</u> 7 <u>,995</u>	18 <u>,37</u> 9	<u>18,040</u> *	<u>17,904</u>	100	16,209	<u>15,264</u>	<u> 15,775</u>	17,003	<u>16,455</u> *	<u>17,109</u>	<u>115</u>
Total 2005	213,382 * 2	13,552	213,709 *	213,200		172,679 *	171,340 *	172,969 *	175,541 *	175,812 *	175,684	
<u>Total 2004</u>	<u>20</u> 6 <u>,64</u> 2 2	08 <u>.42</u> 1_	209,844	<u>210,864</u>		165 <u>,51</u> 5	<u>168,098</u>	168 <u>93</u> 7	<u>167,26</u> 5	<u>167,390</u>	<u>168,31</u> 9	
%Prev. Year	103 noting Data 20	102	102	101		104	102	102	105	105	104	
Approximate Marketing Date 2005												

^{*} Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 213 million eggs during the week ending February 26, 2005. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 4 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 176 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 26, 2005. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through February 26, 2005 were 1.39 billion, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.